

# RecordSearch

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Displaying 1 of 1

List report  
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Series details for: B5535	
Series number	B5535
Title	Classified correspondence files, single number series with GAF (Government Aircraft Factories) prefix
Accumulation dates	01 Jan 1956 - 31 Dec 1986
Contents dates	01 Jan 1956 - 31 Dec 1986
Items in this series on RecordSearch	<a href="#">1</a> Click to see items listed on RecordSearch. Please contact the <a href="#">National Reference Service</a> if you can't find the record you want as not all items from the series may be on RecordSearch.
Agency/person recording	01 Jan 1956 - 31 Dec 1986 <a href="#">CA 4573</a> , Government Aircraft Factories, Fishermen's Bend, Victoria
Agency/person controlling	14 Apr 1942 - <a href="#">CA 46</a> , Department of Defence [III], Central Office
Quantity and location	1.98 metres held in VIC
System of arrangement/ control	Single number series with GAF prefix
Range of control symbols	GAF 1 to GAF 73
Predominant physical format	PAPER FILES AND DOCUMENTS
Series note	<p>These records were created by the engineers of the Design and Development section of the Government Aircraft Factories. They refer to various projects, project management, design studies, guided weapons, design services, airworthiness, materials, and processes. The following subjects concerning specialised areas of aircraft design and development are included within the files:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- aerodynamics</li> <li>- aircraft performance stability and control analysis</li> <li>- aircraft feasibility design studies</li> <li>- defect reports and investigations</li> <li>- design drawings and proposals</li> <li>- electrical/electronics component design</li> <li>- flight test design/development</li> <li>- guided weapons/target drones</li> <li>- enquiries by the Industries Commission</li> <li>- investigation into aircraft accidents</li> <li>- missile test equipment design</li> <li>- operations</li> <li>- presentation of projects</li> <li>- production development and activities</li> <li>- project sheets(originals)</li> <li>- research and development</li> <li>- stress analysis</li> <li>- structural organisations</li> <li>- structural design</li> <li>- trials analysis</li> <li>- work specifications</li> </ul> <p>These records were not part of the Design and Development Registry. They were created by a number of engineers and design areas, being kept on individual desks where needed.</p> <p>There were no control records in the form of index cards, registers, or movement cards created at the time the files were raised. Thus, a new single number system with GAF (Government Aircraft Factories) prefix has been imposed. This was done by the Department of Defence, Regional Office (Victoria) in 1989.</p> <p>The series contains classified files, denoted by the letters C (confidential), S (secret), and R (restricted).</p> <p>Quantity in agency custody</p> <p>2.40 metres</p> <p><a href="#">[Less]</a></p>
Date registered	23 May 1990



Displaying 1 of 1

Jump to record number  
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### Item details

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[New search](#)

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Displaying 1 of 1



List report

Details report

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Item details for: B5535, GAF 37		<a href="#">View digital copy</a>	<a href="#">Request copy</a>
Title	G. Bennett - Sabah Air Nomad - Report by Government Aircraft Factories (GAF) investigation team on a crash of Nomad aircraft in Malaysia 9M - ATZ on 6 June 1976		
Contents date range	1976 - 1976		
Series number	<a href="#">B5535</a> Click to see which government agency or person created this item.		
Control symbol	GAF 37		
Citation	NAA: B5535, GAF 37		
Item barcode	12867285		
Location	Melbourne		
Access status	Open with exception		
Reason for restriction	<a href="#">33(1)(a)</a>		
Date of decision	17 Sep 2012		
Physical format	PAPER FILES AND DOCUMENTS (allocated at series level)		
Extent	0.50cm		
Records authority class number	1007492		
Date registered	29 Aug 2011		

Displaying 1 of 1

Jump to record number



[New search](#)

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[Return to top of screen](#)

NOMAD - SARAH - Accident  
INVESTIGATION

R.P.GDS 10.

12-2-3

COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES  
OF AUSTRALIA

**STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER SECTION 40(5) OF THE ARCHIVES  
ACT 1983- INCLUDING DECISION ON ACCESS**

Record Series: B5535	Control symbol: GAF 37
Title: G. Bennett - Sabah Air Nomad - Report by Government Aircraft Factories (GAF) investigation team on a crash of Nomad aircraft in Malaysia 9M - ATZ on 6 June 1976	Total number of folios (i.e. equivalent separate pages) on the record: 50

**1. Decision**

After examining this record I have decided to open it for public access except for certain material which is identified below.

**2. Basis for decision**

I have taken into account:

- the content of the record requested,
- the relevant provisions of the Archives Act 1983 (*the Act*),
- policy and guidelines of National Archives of Australia that relate to the access examination of Commonwealth records, and
- information provided by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau.

**3. Material withheld**

Where a folio has been withheld pending agency advice, a supplementary statement of decision will be provided once a National Archives decision on access to that material has been finalised.

**Please note:** Information has been excised from original folio number 142. It is not known when this excision occurred or where the removed information can now be located. This information is not exempt under the Archives Act.

Category of material withheld	Number of total folios per category	List each folio separately by category of material
Partially exempted folios (certain parts of the text have been expunged)	1	36
Wholly exempted folios	45	1-22, 23-27, 28-34, 40-50
Folios not within the open access period as defined in s3 (7) of the Act		
Folios withheld pending		

agency examination and advice

#### 4. Findings of fact and reasons for decision

##### A. Findings of fact

In Table A in Annexure 1, I have provided a summary of my findings of fact where I have invoked specific provisions under s 33 of the Act. By invoking these provisions, I have relied on material listed in part 2 above in order to arrive at my decision.

##### B. Reasons for decision

In Table A in Annexure 1, I have provided the reasons for my decision for each folio exempted and those reasons are derived from the findings of fact.

##### 5. Appeal rights

National Archives undertakes careful examination of a record before making a decision to exempt any part of a record. As part of that process we may consult with other agencies which have expertise on specific national and international matters.

If you do not agree with my decision to exempt information under a provision of s 33 of the Act, you can contact a reference officer in National Archives and seek a further explanation.

If you are still not happy with the decision and within 28 days of receiving it, you can formally appeal by:

- 1) first applying to Archives for an internal reconsideration of my decision; and
- 2) if you still do not agree with the decision, you can apply to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for a review.

For more information please read the **National Archives Fact Sheet 12- What to do if we refuse you access**. You can also lodge a complaint with the Commonwealth Ombudsman in relation to the decision.

Decision maker      Gay Hogan

Designation      APS6

Date      14 March 2012

**Annexure 1**

**Table A: Material exempted by folio number and grouped by the application of exemption provisions**

Relevant legislative provision invoked under s33 of the	Folios	Finding of facts	Reasons for Decision
S 33(1) (a) – information or matter the disclosure of which under this Act could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the security, defence or international relations of the Commonwealth.	1-22, 23-27, 28-34, 36, 40-50	<p>These records contain the following references:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some technical detail of an investigation into an aircraft crash in Malaysia where Australia took part in the investigation under the requirements of <i>Annex 13 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation - Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation</i>.</li> <li>2. Details which could impact on the Commonwealth's relations with the current government of a foreign country.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Annex 13 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation - Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation</i> requires that a participating state in an investigation not release details of the investigation without the permission of the main investigating state.</li> <li>2. Malaysia has not as yet publicly released their final and full report of the investigation.</li> <li>3. The Australian Transport Safety Bureau undertakes investigation of aircraft accidents under Annex 13. The public disclosure of this information would lessen the confidence of foreign governments in Australia's commitment to meeting the requirements of Annex 13 and compromise the future activities of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau and impair its ability to carry out its statutory function.</li> <li>4. Release of the information could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the international relations of the Commonwealth.</li> </ol>
S 33(1) (b) – information or matter communicated in confidence by or on behalf of	23-27, 40-50	<p>These records contain one or more of the following references:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Part or all of the information contained</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The information was of an inherently confidential nature when communicated to the Australian government. The information is still afforded security protection by the</li> </ol>

Statement of reasons page no. 3 of 4

<p>a foreign government, an authority of a foreign government or an international organisation to the Government of the Commonwealth, to an authority of the Commonwealth or a person receiving the communication on behalf of the Commonwealth or of an authority of the Commonwealth, being information or matter the disclosure of which under this Act would constitute a breach of that confidence.</p>	<p>in the record has been provided in confidence by a foreign government or agency to Australia with the expectation that it not be released to the public. The information is still regarded as sensitive.</p>	<p>foreign government and it has asked that the information not be disclosed to the public.</p> <p>2. The disclosure of this information would therefore constitute a breach of confidence owed to that foreign government</p>
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Statement of reasons page no. 4 of 4

QUIK-SET BY J. J. MILLER

A.C. 394 Rev. 4

39

WORK ORDER GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT FACTORIES		PROJECT NOMAD PDS	
BUDGET CODE 528	SALES ORDER 19-04-0109	CUSTOMERS ORDER N13189	WORK ORDER 73615
TO NOMAD DESIGN PROJECT MANAGER <i>The following work is required and completion is requested by</i>		FROM ASST PROJECT MANAGER AIRCRAFT	
REQUESTING DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION Expenses associated with visit of Mr. Hooper and Mr. Pearce to Sabah in connection with the investigation into crash of Nomad LS 14	QUANTITY	MANUFACTURING SCHEDULE c.c. Commercial Supt Mr. G. Best Mr. Hooper ✓ Mr. S. Pearce.
			INSPECTION
CONTRACTING DEPARTMENT			DELIVERY
	REQUESTED BY A.C. NORRIS	19/7/1976	RECOMMENDED BY ...../...../19
HOURS		APPROVED BY <i>A.C. Norris</i>	22/7/1976
LABOUR AND OVERHEAD		DISTRIBUTION WHITE Contracting Dept. BUFF Accounting Dept. PINK Contracting/Acc. Dept's.	GREEN Inspection Sect. BROWN Receiving Stores BLUE FILE
MATERIAL			
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$ 2,000 -		

35  
661-7-15.

19776

B. Sohne

Hooper

V#  
NOMAD AA34397  
PGM M MLB 015

106  
1/34397

SMA 2549 MAA246 JMA 344 SUKLOO2 CO02  
AAML HL MASU 018  
KUALALUMPUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SUBANG 18 16 1415

LT  
BEAUF AIR  
MELBURN VIC

FOR D HOOPER CHIEF DESIGNER  
WE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF NOMAD REPORT  
REGARDS BOB BORDAIR KUALALUMPUR

(LT BEAUF AIR D HOOPER NOMAD )

D AA34397



37  
601-7-15

19-776

8.30 AM

Hooper

NOMAD AA34397  
PGM M MLB 015

106  
1/34397

SMA 2549 MAA246 JMA 344 SUKLOO2 COO2  
AAML HL MASU 018  
KUALALUMPUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SUBANG 18 16 1415

LT  
BEAUF AIR  
MELBURN VIC

FOR D HOOPER CHIEF DESIGNER  
WE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF NOMAD REPORT  
REGARDS BOB BORDAIR KUALALUMPUR

(LT BEAUF AIR D HOOPER NOMAD )

AA34397



601-2-12  
36

JUL 6 06 05 '76

VV YMA783 UU  
RR RAYZCX  
DE RAYZAY 783 1880525  
ZNR UUUUU  
R 060525Z JUL 76  
FM GAF MELBOURNE  
TO CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT KUALA LUMPUR  
MALAYSIA TELEX MA 30999  
BT  
UNCLAS  
Y2986/601-2-12  
FOR R WILLIAMS FROM D R HOOPER  
1. COPIES OF FACTORY APPROVED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WILL LEAVE GAF ON WEDNESDAY 7 JULY.  
2. THE REPORTS WILL COME TO YOU VIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT. IF THEY  
HAVE NOT ARRIVED BY 14 JULY TELEX ME. REGARDS DAVID  
BT

DR. Hooper

7 JUL 1976

NNNNKGFMWQMH

MV THDN NDN

35

COMMUNICATIONS

SOME CHATTER (JUNE 1976)

NO. 5

TO ALL MEMBERS OF G.A.F.

The crash of the Nomad on June 6th in Sabah caused us all considerable concern.

Firstly we were all shocked by the tragic loss of life, and that concern remains with us. Secondly there was the fear that the crash and therefore the tragedy, could have been due to a failure of the Aircraft.

David Hooper, Acting Chief Designer, and Stuart Pearce, Chief Test Pilot, agreed to go to Sabah at short notice to assist the Malaysian official investigation. We will have to await the official announcement by the Malaysian Authorities of the findings of the investigation, and no statement can be made by the Factory or the Department in the meanwhile.

Nevertheless I am very aware of the second matter of concern mentioned above, and in that respect I believe we can cease worrying. Pending the announcement by the Malaysian Authorities, please do not chase David Hooper or Stuart Pearce, because they are obliged to avoid comment. We hope the announcement will be made in the comparatively near future.

*J. H. Dolphin*  
J. H. Dolphin,  
MANAGER 4/6/76



Australian Government



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES  
OF AUSTRALIA



# DO NOT OPEN

This acid free mask contains ..... 46 folios  
with the date range ..... 1976 .....

Series no: B5535

Control symbol: CAF 37

Parent barcode: 12861285

The contents of the mask are:

Exempt from public access under paragraph(s)  
33(v)(a)(b) of the Archives Act 1983.  
You have a statutory right to seek a review of  
the exemption.

Not in the open period as defined by the  
Archives Act 1983.

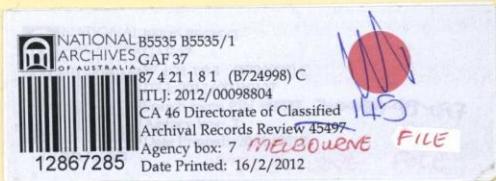
Withheld pending agency advice

Date mask applied..... 14.3.2012.....

Signature..... *Cay Hogan* .....



B724998.



## DECISION

**OPEN WITH EXCEPTION** 33(c)(4)(b)

(1) C.H Date 14.3.2012  
(2) FJ Date 16/3/12